Record Nr. UNINA9910826995503321 Autore Halpern Faye Titolo Sentimental readers: the rise, fall, and revival of a disparaged rhetoric / / Faye Halpern Pubbl/distr/stampa Iowa City:,: University of Iowa Press,, [2013] ©2013 **ISBN** 1-60938-210-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (240 p.) Disciplina 809 809.93353 809/.93353 Soggetti Literature Sentimentalism in literature Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction: The how of sentimentality -- Edward Tyrrel channing and the matter of disingenuous eloquence -- Why we should trust Harriet Beecher Stowe -- The art of appearances in Louisa May Alcott -- Henry Ward Beecher and the fall of the sentimental orator -- In defense of reading badly -- A critical problem with being a good reader of sentimental rhetoric. Sommario/riassunto How could novels like Uncle Tom's Cabin change the hearts and minds of thousands of mid-nineteenth-century readers, yet make so many modern readers cringe at their over-the-top, tear-filled scenes? Sentimental Readers explains why sentimental rhetoric was so compelling to readers of that earlier era, why its popularity waned in the latter part of the nineteenth century, and why today it is generally

characterized as overly emotional and artificial. But author Faye Halpern

also does more: she demonstrates that this now despised rhetoric

remains relevant to contemporary writing teachers and lite